

**Amendments to the claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A connection ~~Connection~~ architecture for XDSL lines ~~comprising, characterised in that the:~~

filters ~~[[or]]~~ and/or splitters ~~[[are]]~~ located in ~~[[the]]~~ an intermediate distribution frame, and

a test table ~~[[is]]~~ connected directly to the intermediate distribution frame independently of any ~~type of~~ digital subscriber line access multiplexor (DSLAM).

2. (Currently amended) A connection ~~Connection~~ architecture according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that further comprising~~ [[after]] the filters have been installed in the distribution frame it is possible to install in said intermediate distribution frame at least one smart card which allows to connect installed in the intermediate distribution frame with the filters and/or splitters therein, the at least one smart card being configured to connect the test table to the intermediate distribution frame, the at least one smart card containing devices that can be activated from the test table to digitally and automatically monitor the filters ~~[[or]] and/or splitters.~~

3. (Currently amended) A connection ~~Connection~~ architecture according to claim 2, ~~characterised in that wherein said at least one smart card allows monitoring the is configured to allow monitoring of a subscriber loop of filter cards associated with when provided for lines rented to associated with other operators, and allows to allow monitoring of both~~ [[the]] a subscriber loop and [[the]] a DSLAM signal for lines of the associated with a dominant operator.

4. (Currently amended) A connection ~~Connection~~ architecture according to claim

2, ~~characterised in that by means of~~ wherein said filters and/or splitters are associated with a first operator and wherein said at least one smart card is configured to place filters of at least one second operator ~~operators can be placed~~ in the ~~[[same]]~~ intermediate distribution frame.

5. (Currently amended) A connection ~~Connection~~ architecture according to claim 2, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ said at least one smart card is actuated from the test table ~~by means of using~~ a digital bus.

6. (Currently amended) A connection ~~Connection~~ architecture according to claim 5, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ said digital bus ~~is provided with~~ includes two power wires, two measurement wires and ~~as many wires as are required~~ for activating all measurement points.

7. (Currently amended) A connection ~~Connection~~ architecture according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that in the intermediate distribution frame are located~~ further comprising, in the intermediate distribution frame, filters cards ~~[[ (13 ) ] ] of both the a dominant operator and filter cards of at least one other operator any second operators, [[ the ] ] connectors~~ ~~[[ ( 14 ) ] ] configured to receive the filter cards, and [[ the ] ] an additional card~~ ~~[[ or ] ] and/or backplane~~ ~~[[ ( 15 ) ] ] including a connector configured to directly connect the intermediate distribution frame to which the a digital subscriber line access multiplexor DSLAM is directly connected by means of a connector (16).~~

8. (Currently amended) A connection ~~Connection~~ architecture according to claim 7, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the connectors configured to receive the filter cards ~~[[ ( 14 ) ] ]~~, upon extraction of one of the filter cards, connect a voice ~~[[ the ] ] input signal (voice)~~ directly to ~~[[ the ] ] a combined voice and data output signal (voice + data)~~ so that ~~[[ the ] ] a voice service~~ ~~[[ of ] ] associated with~~ the extracted filter card is not disconnected.

9. (Currently amended) An intermediate ~~Intermediate~~ distribution frame for a connection architecture for XDSL lines, ~~characterised in that in said distribution~~ comprising:

a frame; ~~are located the~~  
filter ~~[[or]]~~ and/or splitter cards in the frame;~~[[,]]~~  
at least one smart card ~~that allows to digitally monitor~~ configured to allow digital  
monitoring of ~~[[said]]~~ filters associated with the filter and/or splitter cards;~~[[,]]~~ the  
output connectors;~~[[,]]~~ and  
an additional card and/or ~~[[or]]~~ backplane including a connector configured to receive  
at which arrives the a signal from ~~[[the]]~~ a digital subscriber line access multiplexor  
(DSLAM), ~~by means of a connector (16).~~

10. (Currently amended) An intermediate ~~Intermediate~~ distribution frame as  
claimed in claim 9, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said at least one smart card contains devices  
which are activated from ~~[[the]]~~ a test table.

11. (Currently amended) An intermediate ~~Intermediate~~ distribution frame as  
claimed in claim 9, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said at least one smart card allows is  
configured to allow monitoring ~~[[the]]~~ of a subscriber loop for any associated with at least  
one of the filter and/or splitter cards that is associated with a non-dominant operator ~~filter~~  
~~cards of second operators~~ and monitoring of both ~~[[the]]~~ a subscriber loop and ~~[[the]]~~ a  
DSLAM signal associated with at least one of the filter and/or splitter cards that is associated  
with a ~~for filter cards of the dominant operator.~~

12. (Currently amended) An intermediate ~~Intermediate~~ distribution frame as  
claimed in claim 9, ~~characterised in that by means of a smart card~~ wherein the filter and/or  
splitter cards are associated with a dominant operator and wherein the at least one smart card  
is configured to receive filters of at least one second operator ~~operators are placed to place the~~  
filters of the at least one second operator in the same distribution frame.

13. (Currently amended) An intermediate ~~Intermediate~~ distribution frame as  
claimed in claim 9, ~~characterised in that~~ further comprising a digital bus is employed to act on  
configured to couple said at least one smart card to a ~~from the~~ test table used to actuate the at

least one smart card.

14. (Currently amended) An intermediate ~~Intermediate~~ distribution frame according to claim 13, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said digital bus ~~is provided with~~ includes two power supply wires, two measurement wires and ~~as many wires as are required~~ to activate all measurement points.

15. (Currently amended) An intermediate ~~Intermediate~~ distribution frame according to claim 9, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the filter and/or splitter cards are connected to the frame by ~~means of~~ connectors configured to ~~which~~, when ~~[[the]]~~ an associated one of the filter and/or splitter cards are extracted, connect ~~[[the]]~~ a voice input signal (~~voice~~) directly to ~~[[the]]~~ a combined voice and data output signal (~~voice + data~~) so that ~~[[the]]~~ a voice service ~~[[of]]~~ associated with the extracted card is not disconnected.